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PP RUEHFK
DE RUEHKO #4198 2530238
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 100238Z SEP 07
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7417
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAA/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 3085
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 6719
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8877
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1881
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 4935
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 5847
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 004198

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STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - IRAQ AND US-JAPAN
SUMMIT

LEAD STORIES: There were no papers published on Monday morning because of a press holiday. TV news programs gave top play to press remarks by Prime Minister Abe in Sydney on Sunday, in which he expressed his determination to continue the Maritime Self-Defense Force's refueling operation in the Indian Ocean.

[1](#)1. "9/11 and US Society" The liberal Asahi editorialized (9/9): "...Six years after 9/11, American society is divided over the war in Iraq. According to a Gallup poll conducted in August, 60% of the American people said the Iraq war was a mistake.... US presidential candidates are conducting a heated debate about the Iraq war, and it is natural that many of them are critical of 'Bush's war.' Democratic candidates are trying to outdo each other in criticizing the Bush administration. None of them, however, dares to make a statement that could be interpreted as a call for a complete withdrawal of US troops.... The vague positions on the Iraq war held by these presidential hopefuls appear to reflect the confusion in American society.... How will the American people patch up this fissure? They are groping for an answer to this question in the presidential election next year."

[1](#)2. "International Community Wants Japan's Continued Commitment to War on Terrorism" The top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri editorialized (9/9): "The international community's hopes for Japan's continued commitment to the war on terrorism have been reconfirmed. President Bush called on Prime Minister Abe to continue the Maritime Self-Defense Force's (MSDF) refueling operation in the Indian Ocean by telling the premier that Japan's support is vital for

the members of the international community taking part in the war on terror. It is not only the US president. Australian Prime Minister Howard, German Chancellor Merkel, and Pakistani President Musharraf expressed their hopes as well.... It is important for the Abe administration to give a detailed explanation to the Japanese public regarding the significance of the MSDF mission."

SCHIEFFER